

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

March 28, 2012
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Chair
Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale,
Vice Chair
Councilwoman Robin Barker, Apache Junction
Mayor Jackie Meck, Buckeye
Mayor David Schwan, Carefree
Councilman Dick Esser, Cave Creek
Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler
Mayor Lana Mook, El Mirage
* President Clinton Pattea, Fort McDowell
Yavapai Nation
Mayor Jay Schlum, Fountain Hills
* Mayor Ron Henry, Gila Bend
* Governor Gregory Mendoza, Gila River Indian
Community
Mayor John Lewis, Gilbert
* Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale
Mayor Georgia Lord, Goodyear
* Mayor Yolanda Solarez, Guadalupe

Mayor Thomas Schoaf, Litchfield Park
Supervisor Max W. Wilson, Maricopa Co.
Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa
* Mayor Scott LeMarr, Paradise Valley
* Mayor Bob Barrett, Peoria
Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix
Mayor Gail Barney, Queen Creek
* President Diane Enos, Salt River
Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Mayor W. J. "Jim" Lane, Scottsdale
Mayor Sharon Wolcott, Surprise
* Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
Councilman Rui Pereira, Wickenburg
Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown
Victor Flores, State Transportation Board
Joseph La Rue, State Transportation Board
Roc Arnett, Citizens Transportation Oversight
Committee

* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

Attended by telephone conference call. + Attended by videoconference

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the MAG Regional Council was called to order by Chair Hugh Hallman at 11:33 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Hallman noted that Roc Arnett, Mayor Gail Barney, Mayor Michael LeVault, Councilman Rui Pereira, Vice Chair Marie Lopez Rogers, Mayor David Schwan, Mayor Scott Smith, and Mayor Jay Tibshraeny were participating in the meeting by teleconference.

Chair Hallman welcomed back to the Regional Council Supervisor Max W. Wilson, representing Maricopa County. Chair Hallman welcomed a new Regional Council member, Joseph La Rue, State Transportation Board member, and presented him with his membership certificate.

Chair Hallman noted that a legislative summary for agenda item #11 was at each place.

Chair Hallman requested that members of the public who would like to comment fill out a blue public comment card for the Call to the Audience agenda item or a yellow public comment card for Consent Agenda items, or items on the agenda for action. Transit tickets for those who used transit to attend the meeting were available from staff.

3. Call to the Audience

Chair Hallman noted that the Call to the Audience provides an opportunity to members of the audience who wish to speak on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens are requested to not exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes is provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.

Chair Hallman recognized public comment from Dianne Barker, who stated that multimodal feels good. She said that she used to do cartwheels, but the doctors and lawyers stopped that. Ms. Barker said that she saw Justice Sandra Day O'Connor at the Arizona Centennial celebration and she asked Justice O'Connor what might happen if Ms. Barker were to do a cartwheel in her courthouse to which Justice O'Connor replied to just do it and see what they say. She did the cartwheel and the guards liked it. Ms. Barker stated that it was a good sign that the bicycle rack in the MAG parking garage was full and public transit was on time. She said that MAG and RPTA have recommendations resulting from the Audit of Proposition 400. Ms. Barker stated that one finding is to strengthen the scheduling of fleet planning and even though it is related to the transit agencies, it is the responsibility of MAG to ensure the recommendations are implemented so that Proposition 400 can be delivered. Ms. Barker stated that Steve Banta, the CEO for both METRO and RPTA, has indicated this region has too much administration and could do more in efficiency. She recalled that at one time there was discussion of establishing a district, like Flood Control, to run transportation. Ms. Barker stated that meetings regarding costs are going on at RPTA and it appears fares will increase. She remarked that this region is in for changes and we could do more with less.

Chair Hallman thanked Ms. Barker for her comments and expressed appreciation that she was reading the detail of MAG's plans. He expressed appreciation to Mayor Stanton for his support of a single CEO at RPTA and METRO which would not have happened without that support. Chair Hallman stated that he thought this will lead to greater rail and bus service.

4. Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, reported on items of interest in the MAG region. Mr. Smith expressed appreciation to those who submitted entries for the Desert Peaks Awards. Mr. Smith stated that 20 entries had been received for the categories of Public Partnership, Public Private Partnership, Professional Service, Regional Partnership, Regional Excellence, and the new category, Outstanding Economic Development Champion. He reported that the judging panel will select the award recipients in mid-April and the awards will be presented at the Desert Peaks Awards ceremony on June 27, 2012, at the Downtown Phoenix Sheraton, following the annual Regional Council meeting.

Mr. Smith said the recent remodeling of MAG's office space has been a success. He spoke of recent meetings that have been held at the MAG meeting center: the Federal Railroad Administration Southwest Multi-State Rail Planning Study Workshop on March 15, the Western High Speed Rail Alliance board meeting on March 15, and the Intermountain MPO/TMA meeting on March 16.

Mr. Smith stated that a partnering charter for the launch of the Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study was signed by Mayor Barrett, Mayor LeVault, Mayor Mook, Mayor Scruggs, Mayor Stanton, Supervisor Wilson, Mayor Wolcott, and ADOT Director John Halikowski. He explained that having a charter signing is a departure from usual practice and the idea is to get a commitment for the study up front by stakeholders. Mr. Smith stated that in 1985, Grand Avenue started as an expressway and there were discussions to convert it to a freeway, but due to funding issues, improvements have consisted of beautification and some intersection improvements. He said that ADOT had considered turning over the corridor to local control and they could make the improvements they wished, however, regional leaders say this is a vital corridor of significance to the region. Mr. Smith stated that studies on Grand Avenue have been done in the past, but not led by elected officials. He noted this study will have the commitment of the elected officials on a solution for Grand Avenue to retain its capacity. He added that the consultant to conduct the study was approved at the March MAG Regional Council Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Smith noted that each participating agency could pick up their copy of the framed agreement and photo from MAG staff after the meeting.

Chair Hallman thanked Mr. Smith for his report. No questions from the Council for Mr. Smith were noted.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Hallman noted that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, and #5D were on the Consent Agenda. He noted that no public comment cards had been received. Chair Hallman asked members if they had questions or requests to hear an item individually. None were noted.

Mayor Lane moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Wolcott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5A. Approval of the February 22, 2012, Meeting Minutes

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved the February 22, 2012, meeting minutes.

5B. Project Changes - Amendment and Administrative Modification to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved the amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, the 2012 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and as appropriate to the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. The fiscal year (FY) 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update were approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 28, 2010, and have been modified twelve times with the last modification approved February 22, 2012. Since then, there is a need to modify projects in the programs. Tables A and B include a list of proposed administrative corrections and project changes in the Arterial Life Cycle Program. These modifications are mainly clerical and minor adjustments to financial information. Table C contains project modifications that include redistribution of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Transportation Enhancement funding, project deferrals and project cancellations. Transit projects include minor budget adjustments and deferrals to the future. The requested changes were recommended for approval on March 14, 2012, by the MAG Management Committee and on March 21, 2012, by the Transportation Policy Committee.

5C. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. The amendment and administrative modification involve several projects, including changes to Arterial Life Cycle Program projects, transit projects, and increased federal funding for several projects from the redistribution of unobligated American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) program funds. The amendment includes projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. The administrative modification includes minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination. Comments were requested by March 23, 2012.

5D. Social Services Block Grant Reductions

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved forwarding the revised FY 2013 Social Services Block Grant Allocation Recommendations to the Arizona Department of Economic Security. On February 22, 2012, the MAG Regional Council approved that the FY 2013 Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) Allocation Recommendations be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Economic Security. Following the action of the Regional Council, the Arizona Department of Economic Security requested that the allocations be revised to reflect a 3.6 percent decrease or approximately \$139,635. The funding reduction is being implemented by the federal government as a result of a shift in the national population. On March 7, 2012, the MAG Human Services Technical Committee voted to apply the 3.6 percent reduction evenly to all the services funded by SSBG and recommended approval of forwarding

the revised FY 2013 Social Service Block Grant allocation recommendations to the Arizona Department of Economic Security. On March 14, 2012, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of forwarding the revised FY 2013 Social Services Block Grant Allocation Recommendations to the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

6. Development of the Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Rebecca Kimbrough, MAG Fiscal Services Manager, provided a report on the development of the draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget being presented for input. Ms. Kimbrough stated that the draft work program is presented in January each year beginning with the proposed dues and assessments. She noted that MAG staff is proposing that the dues and assessments be maintained for FY 2013 at the 50 percent level.

Ms. Kimbrough stated that the draft proposed projects were presented in February and the program narratives and the estimated budget amounts by project and funding source including carry forward funding amounts are presented in March.

Ms. Kimbrough stated that the MAG capital budget typically includes equipment additions and replacements, mostly for staff computer equipment and software purchases. She explained that the capital budget for FY 2013 includes accounting software and the purchase of one vehicle, which is being leased currently by MAG.

Ms. Kimbrough stated that the indirect rate for FY 2013 is used to project cost amounts for the first draft of the budget each year; the cost detail of the budget is being prepared and will be presented later. She stated that this first draft of the budget includes the regional transportation planning projects for the MAG region and she said that significant revisions are not anticipated.

Ms. Kimbrough stated that the MAG Work Program was reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, as well as MAG's partners: the City of Phoenix, Maricopa County, RPTA, METRO, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, at the March 27, 2012, Intermodal Planning Group meeting. Ms. Kimbrough noted that input from this meeting and MAG's responses will be brought forward at the April Regional Council meeting. Chair Hallman thanked Ms. Kimbrough for her presentation. No questions from the Council were noted.

7. Resolution of Support for Integration of FAA-Unmanned Aircraft Systems into the National Airspace System

Dr. Vicki Panhuse introduced herself and General John Regni as technical advisors to the Arizona Commerce Authority leading the effort for unmanned aircraft systems. She said that she and Gen. Regni already have met with some of the members regarding the FAA's efforts to integrate unmanned and manned flight into national airspace. Dr. Panhuse then spoke of two legislative bills passed by the federal government, both of which designate that the FAA design a program to integrate unmanned and manned flight into national airspace, and include the establishment of six national test ranges. Dr. Panhuse stated that the test ranges have not yet been defined but should include geographic and climatic

diversity integrated with research and development capabilities and infrastructure, and consult with the Department of Defense and NASA. Dr. Panhuse stated that she and Gen. Regni have been meeting with stakeholders and collecting information regarding Arizona's capabilities for the past year.

Dr. Panhuse stated that in the past 30 days the FAA released eight questions for public comment on what the requirements should be. She said they are now collecting that input.

Chair Hallman asked if they saw that response as being a single point or do they seek other interested agencies response to the questions as long as they are consistent with the main effort.

Dr. Panhuse replied that it is a combination of both. She said they sent an email to stakeholders to gather feedback by April 2 and they will provide a unified response. Dr. Panhuse stated that a teleconference is scheduled for April 9 to confirm their understanding of the feedback to develop the Arizona response. They will then go back one more time and she added that the response is due May 8, 2012.

Chair Hallman remarked on the importance of a consistent message and a unified goal.

Supervisor Wilson asked if there would be any impacts to the military presence in the State as a result of this project. Gen. Regni replied that the team is sensitive to continuing all of the military operations that exist in the State currently. He added that there is sufficient airspace outside the restricted airspace at Luke Air Force Base and the Barry M. Goldwater Range, which is a training range, and this is a test program for the FAA. Gen. Regni stated that the 11 candidate sites were those where you could conduct a test and not interfere. He advised that they will be leveraging the assets the military installations already have. Gen. Regni stated that this program will not interfere with Luke Air Force Base or the F-35.

Supervisor Wilson remarked that because the airspace that will be required by the new planes is yet unknown, we need to ensure we are on the same team and we support each other. Gen. Regni replied that the range managers with the military installations are a part of the committee and are working closely with the commanders.

Supervisor Wilson requested a letter from Gen. Regni that this program will not interfere with any resources currently deployed in the State. Supervisor Wilson added that the Governor had appointed him to the Military Affairs Commission.

Gen. Regni stated that they had met with Tom Finnegan and Lisa Atkins from the Military Affairs Commission was involved in the program. Supervisor Wilson expressed that this increased his comfort level.

Dr. Panhuse stated that they had spent four hours at Fort Huachuca on Monday and will be going to the Yuma proving grounds the following week to ensure coordination with those facilities.

Mayor Lord stated that she had a recent conversation with Rusty Mitchell, the Community Relations Officer from Luke Air Force Base, who shared that they will be using every square inch of existing military training airspace in Arizona. While there are no plans now to use that airspace, they have no plans to turn over that airspace for a project such as this.

Dr. Panhuise stated that the Aerospace and Defense Commission evaluated 11 test areas that are not associated with the military, such as the Benson, Seligman, Safford and Kingman airports, which are all in national airspace but not in restricted airspace at all. She added that those are the areas they are looking at. Mayor Lord expressed that this was comforting to hear.

Gen. Regni noted that he had an email from Rusty Mitchell that contained an explanation. He added that Gila Bend is also an issue because it is an emergency landing site and they are staying away from that as well.

Dr. Panhuise stated that they are trying to leverage the knowledge and capabilities of the military installations because they have done manned and unmanned aircraft already.

Dr. Panhuise stated that the key area right now is working on the response to the FAA. She said the goal is to send a delegate to the FAA in Washington, D. C., by mid-May, and present Arizona's case, show what it brings to the table, and why it should be considered. Dr. Panhuise stated that they are working with the Governor's office, the mayors, and other partners in the State to ensure that they have everyone's input and a tight presentation. She stated that they are looking for Regional Council concurrence with their plan and the resolution on the table.

Chair Hallman stated that the proposed resolution is that MAG is supportive of Arizona being designated one of the six national test ranges to integrate unmanned aircraft into the national airspace. He noted that the purpose is to demonstrate political support across the state. Chair Hallman stated that they are not requesting financial or other assistance. He expressed his appreciation for those with interest in military operations and airspace. Chair Hallman indicated that Arizona has a good chance of being considered because it has those assets that could be leveraged, such as universities and business sectors with research and development capabilities. Chair Hallman stated that this is fundamentally economic development, which is the reason the Arizona Commerce Authority is involved. He added that having this test range in Arizona will lead to businesses locating here to support those businesses already here.

Supervisor Wilson asked if this program would be affected by financial cuts to the military. Dr. Panhuise stated that this bill was relevant to the FAA and there is no funding from the Department of Defense relative to the test range. She added that under the FAA modernization act, no additional funds were set aside for test ranges and that is something that still needs to be determined.

Supervisor Wilson asked if additional financing would be needed. Dr. Panhuise replied that a business model would still need to be established for testing at the test ranges.

Chair Hallman commented on funding by saying that the FAA does not have any specific funding for this project but it is in its budget. He stated that a business case needs to be made to demonstrate that

having the test range in Arizona makes sense, and if it happens, it will attract significant economic development associated with the project.

Mayor Stanton expressed his agreement with Chair Hallman. He stated that as the Department of Defense makes cuts, unmanned aircraft systems could become more important and its budget line might be increased. Mayor Stanton stated that the more competitive Arizona could become on the civilian side of unmanned aircraft systems, the more competitive it will become on the military side and align Arizona for a greater percentage of the remaining resources. Mayor Stanton added that it is a strategic advantage and we need to take full advantage.

With no further discussion, Chair Hallman called for a motion. Mayor Schoaf moved to adopt a resolution to support Arizona being selected by the Federal Aviation Administration as one of the six national test ranges to Integrate Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) into the National Airspace System. Councilmember Esser seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Resolution of Support for Arizona's Ports of Entry with Mexico

Mr. Smith stated that the Resolution of Support for Arizona's Ports of Entry with Mexico is a result of many months of work by the MAG Economic Development Committee and the Joint Planning Advisory Council (JPAC). He said that it began with the MAG Freight Transportation Framework Study that looked at freight flows in the entire state. Mr. Smith said that the study found that Texas was increasing its trade with Mexico while Arizona's trade was flat.

Mr. Smith advised that improvement in Arizona's trade with Mexico is needed because Mexico's economy is the 13th largest in the world. He noted that Mexico being the largest bilateral trading partner with Arizona, accounting for an estimated \$30 million in two-way trade each day. Mr. Smith added that \$7.3 million is spent each day in Arizona by Mexican visitors.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG arranged two trips in December 2011 for elected officials, business leaders and staff from Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties to visit the Arizona ports of entry in Nogales and San Luis. He said that at the Nogales port of entry trip, they saw infrastructure that was being built with ADOT's stimulus funding. Mr. Smith noted there will be a lot of usage by commercial trucks that will pass by Nogales High School and ADOT has a design concept report underway to study a potential bypass. He added that the bypass is still an unfunded project. Mr. Smith stated that there are also staffing issues at the Nogales port of entry. Mr. Smith stated during the trip to the San Luis port of entry, representatives learned about infrastructure and staffing issues there.

Mr. Smith stated that as a result of these trips, a resolution of support for the ports of entry was developed. He noted that the resolution was discussed at the February 27, 2012, Joint Planning Advisory Council meeting, and comments received were incorporated into the resolution. Mr. Smith stated that the Mayor of Douglas discussed his infrastructure and staffing issues. Comments received from ADOT and Yuma were incorporated. Mr. Smith stated that the draft resolution is being considered by the Central Arizona Association of Governments, the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization, the

Pima Association of Governments, the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization, the Western Arizona Council of Governments, and the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Mr. Smith stated that President Obama signed an Executive Order on January 19 establishing Visa and foreign visitor policy goals and a task force on travel and competitiveness goals. He noted that from 2000 to 2010, the country's tourism market share has dropped from 17 percent to 11 percent. Mr. Smith stated that the Executive Order is looking at expediting international travel and tourism, expanding the reciprocal recognition program, expediting travel for the global entry program, and producing a national tourism strategy.

Mr. Smith stated that this draft resolution was on the MAG Economic Development Committee and MAG Management Committee agendas. He remarked that this is a first step to fix trade and be more competitive with Texas. Mr. Smith stated that he saw an article regarding how the produce trade is being diverted from Nogales to Texas. He stated that the Arizona Mexico Commission has been working with the border cities, but the effort needs more strength from additional champions. Mr. Smith stated that the impact of tourism is throughout the state, from the border communities to the ski resorts in Flagstaff. He stated that the goal of the resolution is to get more infrastructure and staffing for the Arizona ports of entry.

Chair Hallman stated that those who went on the trips recognized very quickly that the inability to move people and goods across the border legally has been impacted dramatically by inadequate staffing levels and infrastructure. He said that this resolution is to demonstrate support among the various communities. Chair Hallman remarked that various issues have come out of this discussion, for example, whether Union Pacific will open the Wellton branch line and move goods to the West Valley, whether the freight flows can be improved through Tucson. Chair Hallman stated that this is the very first step to recognize we all have a community of interest to support improving the border crossings and provide for legal movements of goods and people across the border. He remarked that the crossings are sadly unmanned and there is an incredible lack of resources. Chair Hallman stated that he was very impressed with the ingenuity of the staff to create improvements out of nothing, and they need help.

Mr. Smith noted that the Southwest Valley would also like to have the railroad run straight south and connect to the Union Pacific track through Buckeye.

Chair Hallman stated that whatever direction taken, if the situation is not fixed the next steps for improvement cannot be taken. He explained how this resolution resulted from the Joint Planning Advisory Council, a group that has representatives from Maricopa, Pima, and Pinal counties working to improve planning for infrastructure investment and be able to take advantage of economic opportunities. Chair Hallman stated no fiscal or legal considerations are required by the resolution, but is to demonstrate political support to improve trade.

With no further discussion, Chair Hallman requested a motion. Councilmember Barker moved to adopt a Resolution of Support for Arizona's Ports of Entry with Mexico. Mayor Schlum seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

9. MAG Municipal Aging Services Project Report

Jami Garrison, MAG staff, began the presentation on the Municipal Aging Services Project, which is how to meet the needs and tap into the talents of people aged 65 years and older in this region. Ms. Garrison expressed appreciation to the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust for the grant to support the project.

Ms. Garrison gave a summary of the demographics of this region. She said that 12 percent of Maricopa County's 3.8 million residents are aged 65 and older and 31.5 percent of those who are non-institutionalized reported having a disability. For 2010, almost seven percent of the population aged 65 and older reported income below the federal poverty level. Growth of the 65 and older population from 2000 to 2010 was 103,662, or almost 30 percent.

Ms. Garrison displayed a slide of the Population Pyramid; the blue represented males and the pink represented females by age groups and percentage of population. In 1940 Maricopa County had a fairly balanced pyramid, but around 1946 the country experienced the post-war "Baby Boom" and by the 1950 decennial Census the emergence of the "Baby Boomers" is noticed. Ms. Garrison then played a progression of the Population Pyramid by decade and noted how the Baby Boomer generation moves through the distribution of the population. She also called attention to how the older population groups grow, especially the top two groups of ages 80-84 and 85 and older.

Ms. Garrison noted that by 2020 the 65 and older population is projected to grow by 237,000, a 51 percent increase. She remarked that this growth will lead to increased needs for services for the 65 and older population.

Amy St. Peter, MAG Human Services and Special Projects Manager, continued the presentation with a report on the results of interviews and focus groups conducted on behalf of the project. She said that the interviews focused on transportation and social participation, and to gain deeper insights about these areas, 19 focus groups with more than 200 people were conducted.

Ms. St. Peter stated that more than 1,000 respondents throughout the region were surveyed by mail and phone and indicated a desire to age in place and live independently.

Ms. St. Peter displayed a graph that showed people are generally satisfied with the services of parks and trails, volunteer opportunities, recreation, and arts and culture. She said when asked about senior centers, some people are generally satisfied and some are dissatisfied, but the majority are neutral on the topic. Ms. St. Peter said that this may be reflective of the relatively low number of people who frequent senior centers. Ms. St. Peter stated that not all respondents were satisfied with the services for employment, rent/utility assistance, affordable housing, and public transportation.

Ms. St. Peter noted that with approximately one-third of people not being satisfied with the public transportation system, many are concerned with losing their ability to drive. While 94 percent report driving, just under 90 percent report they drive as their primary mode of transportation. Ms. St. Peter stated that two thirds of the survey respondents see themselves driving in ten years, as opposed to nearly

90 percent currently. She noted that transit usage increases from 11 percent now and nearly triples to 30 percent in the future. Ms. St. Peter stated that this projected increase in transit usage translates into support for increased, more effective service throughout the region. If projections are correct, this means the number of seniors potentially using transit by 2020 will double.

Ms. St. Peter then addressed responses to the use of public and nonprofit indoor facilities. She said that many never access the programs currently being offered at indoor facilities. Nearly three quarters of respondents (73 percent) report never using facilities operated by local governments or nonprofit agencies, and within this number, 43 percent indicate lack of awareness as being the main reason. Ms. St. Peter stated that almost one-third reported they do not have time to visit these facilities, and 16 percent report getting support from other sources.

Ms. St. Peter reported on priorities for the future. She said that respondents indicated their desire for improvements in healthcare, transit, the supply of affordable housing, and additional services to care for those living alone. Ms. St. Peter stated that people expressed a strong fear of becoming prisoners in their own homes and being forgotten. Ms. St. Peter stated that these priorities present real implications for services like transit and dial a ride, the mental health system, rental assistance and public safety.

Ms. St. Peter stated that more than 200 people attended the Planning for the Next 100 Years event on February 15, 2012. Attendees at the workshops were asked how to start planning for these impacts. Ms. St. Peter stated that a toolkit is being developed for local governments to use in meeting the needs of seniors. She said that the MAG region was chosen as one of five in the country to participate in the MetLife Foundation City Leaders Institute pilot project. Ms. St. Peter noted that people will be engaged through this project.

Chair Hallman thanked Ms. Garrison and Ms. St. Peter for their reports and asked if there were questions.

Mayor Lewis asked if the statistics shown by county could be broken down by local jurisdiction. Ms. St. Peter replied that she would be able to provide those results upon request.

Mr. La Rue stated the fastest growing age segment is the 85 years and older group and that needs to be tracked. Also, the number of single households aged 65 years and older has doubled from 2000 to 2010 and continues to grow. Mr. La Rue stated that researchers say it is not if you will get dementia, it is when. He stated that those statistics need to be tracked.

Mr. Smith stated that Mr. La Rue had informed him of the partnership between Sun Health Systems and Benevilla in Surprise. The goal is to keep people out of the hospital and in their own homes.

Mr. La Rue stated that their focus is healthy living to keep people out of the hospital.

Supervisor Wilson expressed appreciation on the work being done by Sun Health. He asked if there was any progress on Alzheimer's. Mr. La Rue replied that in the past, scientists thought there would be a

cure, but he did not hold out a lot of hope and he thought people need to figure out a way to live with it. Mr. La Rue stated that they have a robust research center in Sun City if anyone would like a tour.

Chair Hallman noted that AIDS went from a death sentence to a chronic disease due to proper management of medication.

10. Update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10

Lindy Bauer, MAG Environmental Director, provided an update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10. She noted that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has submitted the remaining information for the Draft MAG 2012 Five Percent Plan for PM-10 regarding their commitment to assess the effectiveness of the voluntary and emerging control measure (Dust Action General Permit) and information for the Agricultural Best Management Practices Program. Ms. Bauer stated that the draft plan document has now been completed and a public hearing is scheduled for April 12, 2012.

Ms. Bauer stated that during the 30 day public comment period, discussions will continue between the ADEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the Agricultural Best Management Practices Program. Following the consideration of public comments, it is anticipated that action on the plan would be taken by the MAG Regional Council on May 23, 2012. Ms. Bauer welcomed people to view both the full document and the executive summary that are posted on the MAG website.

Ms. Bauer stated that the region needs at least three years of clean data and it is anticipated that EPA will take action on the Plan in February 2013. She indicated that MAG member agencies maintaining their aggressive efforts to prevent exceedances at the monitors and throughout the region is critical. Ms. Bauer noted that to-date in 2012, there have been three PM-10 exceptional event exceedances due to frontal system high winds and residual dust. She also noted that there was concern for the recent fire that occurred in Buckeye that coincided with high winds, however, the region did not exceed the standard.

Ms. Bauer stated that on March 2, 2012, EPA sent a letter to MAG indicating that EPA would consider the MAG comments on the draft exceptional events guidance and the conceptual approach for streamlining the process by enabling states and tribes to make the exceptional events determinations, after consultation with EPA.

Ms. Bauer stated that a copy of the 200-page report prepared by ADEQ to document the exceptional events that occurred from July 2 to 8, 2011, was circulated at the last Regional Council meeting. She noted that the report for five days and 29 exceedances took six months to prepare and she added that the documentation for the remaining 12 packages of exceptional events for 2011 still needs to be prepared.

Ms. Bauer displayed a photo of the huge dust storm that occurred on July 5, 2012, and she pointed out that it took a 200-page document to prove to the EPA what this photo shows. She noted that the state has submitted the document to EPA and we will see what they say.

Ms. Bauer stated that State Representative Reeve's bill, HB 2798, has cleared the House and most of the Senate, and it appears it will pass.

Ms. Bauer stated that the My Turn article written by Chair Hugh Hallman was published by The Arizona Republic. Ms. Bauer expressed appreciation that the facts were presented on the region's efforts to control PM-10.

Chair Hallman stated that the change to the exceptional events process is still being pursued with EPA. He said that the document for the July 2-8, 2011, exceptional events has been submitted. Chair Hallman asked when the next packet would be done. Ms. Bauer replied that ADEQ is charged with preparing the documentation and Maricopa County and MAG provide assistance. Because they were so overwhelmed with work, ADEQ issued a request for proposals to hire consultants, and she thought the proposals were due April 3.

Chair Hallman asked for clarification if ADEQ was moving ahead with work on the next batch or it ceased work and is waiting for the consultants to assist. Ms. Bauer said that the hope is that the work would be done simultaneously rather than sequentially.

Chair Hallman stated that the intent is to submit clean data for 2010, 2011, and 2012, and he added that staff is still working on how 2012 will be submitted since the year has not yet ended. He asked about exceedances in 2009. Ms. Bauer replied that EPA indicated informally that 2009 looked to be a clean year and the state had actually started the documentation, however, its attention was diverted to the exceptional events that occurred in 2011. Chair Hallman said that he thought there were four exceedances in 2009 that were due to exceptional events. Ms. Bauer replied that in 2009, there were more than four exceptional event exceedances and there were approximately seven exceptional events that the state intended to document, but then 2011 happened with many more exceptional events.

Chair Hallman asked for clarification of the reason that it was not possible to document the exceptional events in 2009. Ms. Bauer replied that under the EPA exceptional events rule, the documentation must be submitted within three years of the calendar quarter in which the exceptional events occurred. She noted that some exceptional events occurred in March 2009.

Chair Hallman asked if there was any way to document exceptional events other than a calendar year. Ms. Bauer replied that the EPA air quality standard is based on calendar year data. Chair Hallman asked if that was the reason that the three years of clean data was moved to 2010, 2011, and 2012. Ms. Bauer replied that the deadline of three years from the calendar quarter is included in the exceptional events rule. She noted that there are exceptional events that could be documented in 2009, but the problem is documentation is very resource intensive and the state did not have the resources. Ms. Bauer noted that if 2011 is not documented, the region would not be able to use 2011 toward its three years of clean data.

Chair Hallman expressed his interest in 2009 because 2010 was clean and 2012 is unknown and we are putting a lot at risk with 2012. He indicated he thought if it is not too late with 2009, we ought to consider preparing the documentation, but if it is too late, then he would just like to know and we should not have the discussion. Ms. Bauer stated that MAG encouraged the state to document 2009 because at

least three years of clean data are needed. She advised that with 2009, it is not too late to document all of the exceptional events and they can be documented within three years of the end of the calendar quarter in which they occurred. Chair Hallman said that the deadline would be the end of March for those exceptional events that occurred in the first quarter of 2009. Ms. Bauer replied that was correct and she said it appears the documentation for the first quarter of 2009 will not be done before the deadline.

Councilmember Esser asked about obtaining copies of the dust storm photo. Kelly Taft, MAG Communications Manager, replied that MAG members were free to unlimited use of the photo because MAG had purchased the rights to use it. She noted that the question arose the other day about other agencies associated with MAG using it and she had not heard back from the photographer yet.

Mayor Schoaf suggested that the photo could be sent to Regional Council members electronically.

Mr. Smith remarked that if the exceptional events policy is not fixed, MAG will never emerge from this situation. He indicated that is why legislation was drafted and given to the Congressional Delegation and others. He added that he was unsure if a bill was available to include it. Mr. Smith stated that the events from the Western United States, such as dust storms and forest fires, go to Region IX and this does not work. He remarked that he felt it was the unintended consequence of a rule. Mr. Smith said that no one expected events of such magnitude to occur and it should not take four to six months of work and 200 pages to prove they are exceptional events.

11. Legislative Update

Nathan Pryor, MAG Intergovernmental Policy Coordinator, provided an update on legislative issues of interest. He noted that an updated legislative summary was at each place. Mr. Pryor reported that the Arizona legislative session may be winding down and discussion of the budget has begun in earnest.

Mr. Pryor then addressed federal surface transportation reauthorization, which expires March 31, 2012. He said that both House and Senate versions include provisions that could affect metropolitan planning organizations. Mr. Pryor stated that the Senate bill is a two-year extension to 2013 that includes a slight funding increase and the Interstate 11 designation. He noted an amendment by Senator Bagich that restored funding distributions to regions did not make it into the bill. Mr. Pryor stated that efforts will continue through the National Association of Regional Councils, National League of Cities, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors to ensure that the amendment is included in a bill.

Mr. Pryor stated that the House bill is in disarray and some provisions have been stripped out. He said that they do not have the votes and effectively have no bill. Mr. Pryor stated that there are a number of procedural rules in play, such as when a vote might be called. He added that there is supposed to be a roll call that day at 3:00 p.m. for a 60 day extension of the reauthorization. Mr. Pryor stated that there are concerns for the number of votes needed and he added that two-thirds vote would be required for the 60 day extension to pass. He stated that there are concerns if the House passes the extension that the Senate would support it or their own Senate version. Mr. Pryor explained that if there is a 60 day extension, the House will still need to originate a reauthorization bill due to spending rules.

Chair Hallman thanked Mr. Pryor for his report. No questions from the Council were noted.

12. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Regional Council would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting were requested.

No requests for future agenda items were noted.

13. Comments from the Council

An opportunity was provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Mayor Lewis introduced Kathryn Cuiffo, a Highland High School student, who is on the student council and the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. She is involved in student government days and was shadowing Gilbert's Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator to learn about government. Ms. Cuiffo was applauded by the Council.

Mayor Stanton stated that the City of Phoenix looks forward to the leadership of the newly appointed County Administrator, Tom Manos, whom he considered an excellent choice. Mayor Stanton stated that a good relationship exists with Mr. Manos in his previous capacity at the County and through his work with the homeless. He extended his congratulations. Mayor Stanton mentioned the announcement of Mayor Scruggs to not seek another term as mayor. He said that she has been truly a transformative leader and a stalwart advocate for the region. Mayor Stanton stated that he had worked with Mayor Scruggs on issues related to Luke Air Force Base. He stated that she had been a friend to the region and it is positive to recognize someone who served in that capacity for such a significant amount of time.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilman Esser moved and Mayor Schlum seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

Chair

Secretary